finalised paying the way for field investigations and preparation of DPR. Regarding Bagmati and Kamla Multipurpose Projects, the Joint effort of the Government of India and Nepal to sort out certain technical issues are under progress between the two countries.

Fraudulent practices by exporters

*230. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have apprehended a number of exporters for fraudulent exports during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of the firms alongwith the irregularities of each one of them together with the amount involved and the action initiated; and

(c) the preventive and curative steps initiated against each one of them and against the exporters as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) (a) to (e) Yes, Sir, the Government have apprehended exporters for fraudulent exports during the last three years, details of which are given in the Annexure. *[See* Appendix 195, Annexure No. 22]. The exporters in these cases had tried to avail unintended export benefits by mis-declaration with regard to quantity, quality and value of the export goods. In all these cases, besides departmental adjudication, accused persons were also arrested and remanded to judicial custody. In some cases action under COFEPOSA was also initiated and exporters detained.

As regards preventive measures, officers dealing with examination and assessment of export cargo have been asked to be vigilant to curb attempts by unscrupulous exporters to perpetrate export frauds. The officers have been asked to be alert in dealing with sensitive commodities and exports to sensitive destinations. Directorate of Revenue Intelligence also

gathers periodic intelligence regarding such frauds and disseminates the same to all the Custom Houses in the country.

Various safeguards have been in-built in the export promotion schemes to prevent misuse. Some of these are as follows:—

(i) Licences issued under Advance Licensing Scheme are subject to actual user condition and are non-transferable.

(ii) Capital goods imported under EPCG Scheme are subject to actual user condition till fulfillment of export obligation.

(iii) A close nexus is specified for duty free import under DFRC Scheme.

(iv) In respect of items having DEPB rate of 17% or above, value cap is specified to prevent unintended benefit. Instructions already exist for verification of Present Market Value (PMV) in respect of products having DEPB rate of 10% or more and the exporter is required to give a declaration that the benefit under DEPB Scheme shall not exceed 50% of PMV. In fact in respect of "Floppy Diskette", which has rate of 2% only, value cap has been imposed due to sensitivity of the product which may contain proprietary software and thus fetch a very high value.

(v) Caps have been specified in All industry Rate of Drawback to prevent availment of higher drawback by over-invoicing. Present Market Value checks have also been provided for goods exported to sensitive destinations.

Effect of terrorism on tourism

*232. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be plesed to state:

(a) whether tourism was very much affected at different places of the country due to U.S. attacks on Afghanistan during September to November, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State and Union Territory-wise and month-wise with earnings made from this sector;